

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/734,982	DECUSATIS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Duc C Ho	2665	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 02-08-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3, 10, 20-21, 23-24, 30, 39, and 42-50. Renumbered 1-17, respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date 12-12-00 | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                        | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

### **Reason for allowance**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 3, and 44, the prior arts fail to teach or fairly suggest a method of determining a clock signal relative to data, the method comprises the step of using the adjusted clock signal to regulate a flow of output of one or more data units of the plurality of data units, wherein the one or more data unit are output in parallel, wherein the output is from one or more analog-to-digital converters coupled to one or more optical receivers receiving the one or more data units over one or more optical fibers or the plurality of optical fibers, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 3, and 44.

Regarding claims 10, 30, 42, and 43, the prior arts fail to teach or fairly suggest a method of determining a clock signal relative to data, the method comprises a step of adjusting the clock signal to a selected position of at least one data unit of the plurality of data units, wherein the selected position is a middle position of at least one data unit, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 10, 30, 42, and 43.

Regarding claims 20-21, and 45-46, the prior arts fail to teach or fairly suggest a receiver portion of a communications link that comprises a plurality of optical fibers to receive a plurality of data units in parallel, and one or more analog-to-digital converters coupled to one or more optical receivers of the plurality of optical receivers to output one or more data units, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 20, and 45.

Regarding claims 23-24, and 47-48, the prior arts fail to teach or fairly suggest a receiver portion of a communications link that comprises a comparator coupled to the phase lock loop to determine an offset of an edge of the clock signal with respect to at least one edge of at least one

data unit, wherein the offset is usable by the adjust unit, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 23, and 47.

Regarding claims 39, and 49-50, the prior arts fail to teach or fairly suggest a receiver portion of a communications link that comprises means for detecting an offset of an edge of the clock signal with respect to at least one edge of at least one data unit, wherein the offset is usable by the means for adjusting, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 39, and 49.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-3147. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (571) 272-3155.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2665

4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duc Ho", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Duc Ho

02-17-05